

1 TELECONFERENCING SYSTEM AND METHOD

2 ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

3 A teleconferencing system comprised of one or more telecommunication systems; two or  
4 more subscriber terminals connected to the telecommunication systems; an electronic  
5 computing means connected any telecommunication system of the teleconferencing  
6 system. The electronic computing means, e.g. a server-type computer runs a conference  
7 initiating program; and a means for providing an availability signal associated with each  
8 subscriber terminal. The availability signal is accessible to the server and any participating  
9 telecommunication system is capable of cooperating with program for initiating a  
10 conference between the subscriber terminals; program initiates a conference between the  
11 subscriber terminals by attempting transmission of a conference call when such call is  
12 requested by any of the subscriber terminals; the conference call is transmitted to each  
13 subscriber terminal as soon as its associated availability signal indicates availability of that  
14 terminal.